PRIORITY (Security Classification)

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

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TO : THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. September 25, 1961 DATE

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50 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION FE-4	DEPT. INFO RMR-3 INR-7 P-3 S/P-1 EUR-5 PPT (2)
	RECD 10-4	OTHER CIA-10 USIA-10 NSA-4 OSD-5 ARMY-4 NAVY-4

SUBJECT: Transmitting North Vietnamese propaganda on Laos

The enclosed books were published in 1961 by the Foreign Languages Press in Hanoi, and were purchased in a bookstore in Phnom Penh, where such works can be found in profusion. The books are:

1. Au Pays du Million d'Eléphants, by Quang Minh. This book seems mainly an elegy to Kong Lé, but contains a detailed map of Pathet Lao operations dated May 2, 1961, one week after the appeal for the ceasefire broadcast by the Co-Chairmen of the Geneva Conference. What purports to be the name of the author, Quang Minh, in Vietnamese means "to clarify, or to enlighten."

2. Sous le Ciel du Laos. This work is a collection of essays by Communist authors, and includes one by an American woman named Anna Louise Strong, a long-time Communist propagandist who apparently was in Sam Neua Province as of April 6, 1961, and who listed her date of arrival there as August 9, 1960. The rest of the essays were composed by Soviet Bloc nationals, except for the last piece in the book, a press statement by Souvanna Phouma delivered in Hanoi on April 27, 1961.

Another geographic evaluation by Strong

For the Chargé d'Affaires a.i.:

Herbert Gordon
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosures: Au Pays du Million d'Eléphants (1 copy)
Sous le Ciel du Laos (1 copy)

cc: Saigon, Vientiane

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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